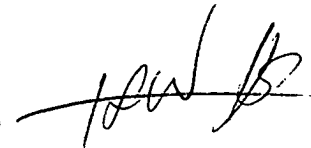




PATENT 
450100-04755

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE


Applicants: Tsukasa HASHINO et al.
Serial No.: 10/659,231
Filed: September 10, 2003
For: ENCODING METHOD AND APPARATUS
Examiner: Rao, Anand Shashikant
Art Unit: 2621
Confirmation No.: 3477

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 21, 2007.

William S. Frommer, Reg. No. 25,506

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative


Signature

December 21, 2007

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (d)
AND CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

12/27/2007 AAHRA01 00000044 10659231

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Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with a copy of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the attention of

applicants by being cited in an Office Action issued in the corresponding Japanese application on November 6, 2007. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after receipt of the Final Office Action mailed July 18, 2007 and Advisory Action mailed September 19, 2007.

A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).


Applicants' undersigned attorney hereby certifies pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (e) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By: 
William S. Frommer
Reg. No. 25,506
Tel. (212) 588-0800